

Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:

P.O. Box 3044

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
North Central Region
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Contact: Dylan Wood
Phone: 916-358-2384



Lead Agency

Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S Street, Mail Stop H201
Sacramento, CA 95817
Contact: Emily Bacchini
Phone: 916-732-6334

SUBJECT: *Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108*

State Clearinghouse Number: 2017092042

Project Title: Rancho Seco Solar II Project (Project)(California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2018-057-02-A1 (ITP))

Project Location: The Project is located at 14960 Twin Cities Road in the unincorporated community of Herald, in the County of Sacramento, State of California; Latitude 38°20'42", Longitude 121°07'19" or Sections 28 29, 32, Township 6N, Range 8E, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map Clay and Goose Creek quadrangles; Assessor's Parcel Numbers 140-0050-008, 140-0050-0011, 140-0050-0010 and 140-0050-0013.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has amended ITP No. 2081-2018-057-02, pursuant to section 2081 of the Fish and Game Code to the Project Permittee, Rancho Seco Solar II, LLC, as represented by Chris Clevenger.

The Project includes construction and operation of a new photovoltaic (PV) solar power facility and decommissioning and removal of an existing solar power facility. The Project encompasses approximately 554 acres comprised of the PV solar panels, inverters, a substation, switchyard, battery storage and interconnection to the existing transmission system.

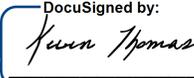
CDFW has accepted the Permittee's request for a minor amendment to the ITP issued on August 6, 2019. The ITP was originally issued based on 30% design drawings, however, the Permittee has now completed the design and Issued for Construction/100% final design drawings. As such, the updated design allows for improved constructability of the Project in an efficient, cost effective, and timely manner, reducing potential permanent, temporary, and indirect environmental impacts. The updates to the design have resulted in an overall decrease of impacts to the California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) and its habitat. While Project activities are the same as those permitted at 30% design, the Permittee has requested the ITP: 1) reflect the final design, 2) update to the Permittee's principal officer, 3) update the Project Description, and 4) reevaluate the Project's mitigation requirement considering efforts to decrease the Project's impact on the California tiger salamander.

Notice of Determination**- 2 -**

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described Project on the date signed below and has made the following determinations regarding the Project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project will / will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. CDFW considered the environmental impact report prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures were / were not made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were / were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The final Environmental Impact Report prepared for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of project approval as Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:

 Signature: _____ Date: 12/11/2020
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 Kevin Thomas
 Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____